

Remarks

In response to the Office Action mailed on September 28, 2006, the Applicants sincerely request reconsideration in view of the above amendments to the claims and the following remarks. The claims as presented are believed to be in allowable condition.

Claims 2-19 and 21-23 are currently pending in the present application. Claims 2-10 and 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Claims 11 - 19 are allowed.

As shown above, Claim 6 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2, 3, 5, 7-10, 21, and 23 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Interview Summary

A phone interview was held with the Examiner on October 26, 2006 at 3.00 pm. The Examiner agreed that, the amendments overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejection of claims 2-10 and 21-23 and the application is in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 11-19 are allowed. Applicants appreciate the allowance of claims 11-19.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 2-10 and 21-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 2, 3, 5, 7-10, 21, and 23 have been amended and Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments overcome this rejection and add no new matter.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment After Final be entered by the Examiner, placing the claims in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully submit that the proposed amendments of the claims do not raise new issues or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner, since all of the elements and their relationships claimed were either earlier claimed or inherent in the claims as examined. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate allowance of all pending claims by the Examiner.


Finally, Applicants respectfully submit that the entry of the Amendment would place the application in better form for appeal, should the Examiner dispute the patentability of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this amendment and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD

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